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CHESTERFIELD  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health  
for the year  
1953

BY

**JOHN REID GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

Medical Officer of Health.



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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

31st DECEMBER, 1953

ASHOVER	.....	.....	Haslam, T. P.
BARLOW	.....	.....	Needham, W.
BEIGHTON :			
Beighton and Hackenthorpe			
Ward	.....	.....	Ballance, F.
			Turton, B. P.
Frecheville Ward	.....	.....	Hart, E.
			Umpleby, E., Mrs., J.P.
BRACKENFIELD	.....	.....	Boot, C. W.
BRAMPTON	.....	.....	Riggott, G. A.
BRIMINGTON	.....	.....	Everett, W.
			Horner, W.
CALOW	.....	.....	Maddison, E. A., Mrs.
ECKINGTON :			
Eckington Ward	.....	.....	Kay, H.
Gleadless Ward	.....	.....	Woolhouse, W.
Mosborough Ward	.....	.....	Woodward, H.
Renishaw Ward	.....	.....	Jennings, T. T.
Ridgeway Ward	.....	.....	Hallworth, T. H., M.C., D.S.Sc.
HASLAND	.....	.....	Hargreaves, A.
			Sales, W.
HEATH	.....	.....	Parsons, A.
HOLMESFIELD	.....	.....	Eyre, R. H.
KILLAMARSH	.....	.....	Hall, M.
			Marshall, H., J.P.
MORTON	.....	.....	Richards, A. E.
NORTH WINGFIELD	.....	.....	Priestnall, E.
			Webster, D.
PILSLEY	.....	.....	Feather, E.
SHIRLAND & HIGHAM :			
Shirland and Higham Ward			Greenwood, E.
Stonebroom Ward	.....	.....	Fellows, W. E.
STRETTON	.....	.....	Walker, J. R.
SUTTON-CUM-			
DUCKMANTON	.....	.....	Rosling, A. V., A.M.Inst. B.E.
TEMPLE NORMANTON	.....	.....	Thackray, F.
TUPTON	.....	.....	Sales, S.
UNSTONE	.....	.....	Dawson, E.
WALTON	.....	.....	Birds, J.
WESSINGTON	.....	.....	Clarke, R. F.
WINGERWORTH	.....	.....	Ridd, J. H.

# PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

---

CHAIRMAN, SANITARY COMMITTEE :

W. E. FELLOWS, Esq.

CHAIRMAN, HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE :

W. EVERETT, Esq.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

JOHN R. GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B. (St. And.) D.P.H., (St. And.)

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :

T. W. BINNS, F.S.I.A., Cert., Meat Inspector.

DEPUTY CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :

W. E. BOLTON, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector.

DISTRICT SANITARY INSPECTORS :

G. KEAVENY, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector.

W. WOODWARD, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector.

W. A. WELLS, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector.

R. WILCOCK, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector.

R. GOUCHER, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector.

F. BARRETT, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector.

CHIEF CLERK :

G. F. WILKS, M.B.E.

CLERKS :

L. SILCOCK

S. CAPE

MISS L. MORTON

MRS. M. WALKER

MRS. J. S. BENHAM

MISS K. FORREST

MRS. D. MAYCOCK

ANNUAL REPORT

---

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present the Annual Report on the health of the Rural District for the year 1953.

The vital statistics are again quite satisfactory. The ordinary infectious diseases such as scarlet fever, measles and whooping cough have generally been of a mild type with little or no sequelae.

In housing this may be said to be a year of consolidation. While much work is still in front of us, the most urgent needs have been catered for.

In the years immediately following the war the paramount needs of so many was a roof overhead, though the home beneath the roof left much to be desired. The Council, like many other local authorities, were forced into using makeshift accommodation, for example, the huts at Beighton Camp. This urgent need has passed and a planned programme can be carried through.

In the year 1954 new legislation will be introduced to deal with housing, and it does seem that at last a start will be made to clear away the unfit properties in the area.

Other legislation and measures which are proposed for 1954 and which will affect local authorities, are an amended Food and Drugs Act and the freeing of meat from control.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity of thanking all my colleagues who have helped in compiling this report.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN R. GRAHAM,  
Medical Officer of Health.

Health Offices,  
Rural Council House,  
Chesterfield.

## STATISTICS

---

Area of District	.....	69,139 acres
Population (Registrar General's Figure)	.....	81,550
Number of Inhabited Houses and Caravans in the District	.....	26,038
Rateable Value	.....	£373,909
Estimated product of Penny Rate for the year ending 31st March, 1955	.....	£1,452

LIVE BIRTHS :	M.	F.
Total	733	667
Legitimate	719	649
Illegitimate	14	18

STILL BIRTH :		
Total	18	18
Legitimate	18	16
Illegitimate	—	2

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE :	M.	F.
Total	21	15
Legitimate	21	15
Illegitimate	—	—

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE :		
Total	14	8
Legitimate	14	8
Illegitimate	—	—

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE :	
Total	25.71 per 1,000 live births.
Legitimate	25.71 per 1,000 legitimate births.
Illegitimate	Nil per 1,000 illegitimate births.

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVING	8.7
-----------------------------	-----

MATERNAL MORTALITY per 1,000 live (and still)	1.39
---	------

Deaths from Measles, all ages	Nil
Whooping Cough, all ages	1



## SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Atmospheric Pollution.

---

The Council, for a number of years, have been concerned with the nuisance caused by smoke from burning spoilbanks, fumes from coke ovens and dust from slag "cracking" plants.

The whole question of atmospheric pollution was brought forcibly to the public notice as a result of the deaths attributed to the London "smog" of December, 1952.

Dr. Charles, Chief Medical Officer to the Ministry of Health, has stated that very much more research is needed so that the deleterious elements can be pin-pointed and eradicated if possible.

He has also pointed out that some fogs have marked fatal results while, to all intents, similar do not seem to be so deadly.

As regards the London "smog," it is possible that the exhausts from motor cars and more especially from Diesel engined vehicles play a sinister part.

Smoke consists mainly of soot or carbon particles and sulphur dioxide. The soot particles can be almost eliminated by proper combustion. The efficient combustion of the raw fuel can be achieved in industrial plants by proper stoking and efficiently designed boilers, but the domestic fire which accounts for 50% of the smoke in the atmosphere is more difficult to control. Still more difficult to control and prohibitively costly to achieve is the elimination of the sulphur compounds.

Two areas in the rural district are particularly affected by smoke and fumes. Investigations of the mortality and morbidity figures were made but, as was expected, the numbers concerned were so small that no variation in the figures for the two areas compared with the remainder of the district could be demonstrated. Meanwhile, constant supervision is kept by the Sanitary Inspectors, and all means available are used by them to lessen the nuisances caused by smoke and dust.

The constant increase of hydro-electric power plants and the newest form of energy, that of the atom, give hope that in the not too distant future industrial processes and manufactures will be carried out with no resultant pollution of the air.

In a recent discussion on the London fog of December, 1952, by the Royal Sanitary Institute, the following points are worthy of note :—

### SMOKELESS ZONES.

Smokeless fuel was quoted at 168s. 7d. per ton with 3 to 4 weeks delivery : coal from 88s. 4d. to 134s. 5d. delivery within a week, it was, therefore, necessary to have—

- (a) more supplies available,
- (b) to lower the cost of the fuel.

### SO.<sub>2</sub>. SULPHUR DIOXIDE.

Under certain atmospheric conditions SO.<sub>2</sub>. is converted into sulphuric acid.

It has been thought that the toxic concentration of SO.<sub>2</sub> was about 10 p.p.m. but recent researches indicate that this figure should be lowered considerably.

In the period of fog in London in December, 1952, concentrations never exceeded 1.3 p.p.m.

### NEUTRALIZATION.

It was suggested that the dust from cement works, being an alkaline chalk-clay dust, might tend to neutralize the acid forming SO.<sub>2</sub>.

There were, of course, many more suggestions and statements, but the three extracts above do give emphasis to Dr. Charles' statement that much more research is needed into the whole problem of atmospheric pollution. Moreover, it is evident that all measures that can be taken will be of a long term nature.

Meanwhile, in our own area we must keep steadily working to reduce the pollution, but immediate results cannot be expected.

## CHESTERFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

**INHABITED HOUSES AND CARAVANS,****31st, MARCH, 1954.**

Parish.	Number of Inhabited Houses and Caravans	Number on Water Supply N.E.D.J.W.C.	Number on Supply C.B. & C. Water Board.
Ashover .....	660	278	—
Barlow ... ..	289	241	—
Beighton ... ..	5940	5909	—
Brackenfield .....	71	54	—
Brampton .....	317	—	162
Brimington .....	1898	—	1956
Calow ... ..	505	—	503
Eckington .....	4981	4669	*
Hasland .....	1085	—	1083
Heath .....	410	406	—
Holmesfield .....	374	273	—
Killamarsh .....	1440	1435	—
Morton .....	335	329	—
North Wingfield .....	1907	1907	—
Pilsley .....	746	730	—
Shirland and Higham .....	1472	1436	—
Stretton .....	188	169	—
Sutton-cum-Duckmanton .....	449	186	202
Temple Normanton.....	171	169	—
Tupton .....	747	746	—
Unstone .....	635	623	—
Walton .....	624	—	526
Wessington .....	219	178	—
Wingerworth .....	575	463	55

\* Part of Parish supplied by mains of Sheffield Corporation.

## APPROXIMATE POPULATION IN THE PARISHES.

In the table giving the number of inhabited houses in the Parishes and the approximate population, regard has been made to the mid-year estimated population figure of the Registrar General, i.e., 81,550.

The usual method of obtaining the approximate population of the Parishes is to divide the population figure given by the Registrar General by the number of inhabited houses in the whole district, these being the only concrete figures available; this gives an average number of persons per house.

If the number of houses built has been considerable (as is the case this year) and the population of the whole district has not increased in proportion, the average of persons per house will drop, so that in Parishes where there has been little development this year, would perhaps show no apparent increase and, in fact, in some a decrease of population.

Owing to the extensive housing schemes that have been carried out in certain areas and the resulting movement of persons from one Parish to another, it is difficult to calculate the population for the separate Parishes.

I would emphasize that the figures are only an approximate estimate of the population of the Parishes.

Ashover	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,072
Barlow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	907
Beighton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,651
Brackenfield	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	222
Brampton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	995
Brimington	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,960
Calow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,585
Eckington	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15,640
Hasland	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,407
Heath	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,287
Holmesfield	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,174
Killamarsh	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,521
Morton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,052
North Wingfield	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,988
Pilsley	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,342
Shirland and Higham	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,622
Stretton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	590
Sutton-cum-Duckmanton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,410
Temple Normanton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	536
Tupton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,345
Unstone	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,994
Walton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,959
Wessington	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	687
Wingerworth	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,810

## HOUSING.

From the figures supplied by the Engineer it will be seen that, including the Sheffield Corporation's undertakings, 936 houses have been erected in the Rural District and of that number 549 are directly under the control of the Council.

There is a close liaison between the Housing Department and the Coal Industry Housing Association, and many tenants on the Council's waiting lists have been housed by the Association.

The Housing Manager reports that there were 3,272 "live" applications on the housing list on the 31st December, 1952.

In 1953—50 properties were released from requisitioning and the number of properties still held under requisitioning power at the end of December was 100 ; in addition five families were still in occupation of huts at Beighton Camp.

There are still 163 houses in occupation which were condemned before the outbreak of war.

As you are aware, it is estimated that 2,500 properties in the Rural District are regarded as being "condemnable" and 8,000 requiring major repairs.

No doubt many of the 8,000 classified some years ago will by now have moved down to the unrepairable category.

It has been noticeable that when houses have been represented under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936, very few offers to repair have been made unless the dwelling is to be occupied by the owner.

This is to be expected as the net weekly return to the landlord will not average more than 3/- to 4/- per week, and at a low estimate the properties will require £200—£300 spending to make them habitable, and even at that figure no modern improvements can be installed, so it is obvious that the return on the money spent is quite inadequate.

It does seem likely also that many owners will not be inclined to spend money in modernising and repairing the older houses requiring major repairs unless some provision is made in the new legislation before Parliament for increasing the rents.

One hopeful sign in connection with housing is that new houses built by the Council are not showing the increases in price which have occurred in previous years. While as yet there is no drop in price it is to be hoped that after a period of stabilisation prices may show a downward trend.

The garden competition which the Council have instituted has been a great success and some really nicely designed and well-kept gardens are to be seen.

Unfortunately, however, many tenants seem to have no interest in the garden and regard it simply as a piece of land where children can play. One realizes, of course, that a garden if of any size takes a good deal of time and work to keep decent, and some people regard it more of a nuisance than an asset.

In the future planning of the larger estates, if thought desirable, it might be possible to build a number of houses with practically no gardens but surround with an open space set out as a lawn which would be maintained by the Council. Tenants who expressed a desire for a house without a garden could be thus accommodated and the amenities of the estate improved.

In Mosborough, the purchase of condemned houses with the sites is proceeding quickly and it will make a great improvement when the sites are re-developed. At present the main street presents rather a desolate picture with vacant spaces here and there.

In the reconstruction and rebuilding here the possibility of erecting flats should be considered. As mentioned in a previous paragraph, in some of the larger towns flats have been erected and, according to all reports are quite satisfactory and well liked by the tenants. One advantage is that more people could be concentrated near the shopping centres in the village.



## HOUSING

1.	Inspection of dwelling houses during the year 1953 :—				
(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....	586		
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	586		
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 .....	69		
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.....	69		
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	69		
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.....	517		
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—				
		Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers .....	97		
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—				
(a)	Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—				
(1)		Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	—		
(2)		Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices .....			
	(a)	By Owners .....	—		
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners .....	—		
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—				
(1)		Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	125		
(2)		Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :			
	(a)	By Owners .....	78		
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners .....	1		

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.....	46
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	13
(3) Number of dwelling houses demolished by informal action .....	1
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .....	—

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .....	194
(2) Number of persons dwelling therein .....	1569
(3) Number of families dwelling therein .....	265
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .....	2
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....	14
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases .....	110
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps to the abatement of overcrowding .....	

5. Number of houses demolished in Clearance Areas, 1953..... 65



## OVERCROWDING BEDROOM STANDARD.

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	.....	.....	.....	.....	1531
	(2)	Number of persons dwelling therein	.....	.....	.....	.....	9197
	(3)	Number of families dwelling therein	.....	.....	.....	.....	2112
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	.....	.....	.....	.....	88
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	.....	.....	.....	.....	676
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps to the abatement of overcrowding	.....	.....	.....	.....	—

## WATER SUPPLIES.

The water supply has been adequate in quantity despite ever increasing demands caused by new building development.

If the scheme already on paper for increasing the supply goes through, the rural district will be assured of a satisfactory supply for the future.

The Water Engineer of the North East Derbyshire Joint Water Committee reports that approximately five miles of trunk mains have been laid during the year and approximately thirteen miles of mains have been laid to serve housing estates.

In the year ended 31st December, 1953, 447 samples of treated water were taken of which 394 were classed as satisfactory and 53 as unsatisfactory.

95 samples were also collected of raw water at source, of which 53 were classed as satisfactory and 42 as unsatisfactory.

The Engineer to the Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clowne Water Board reports that "Work proceeded during the year on the first stage of the Brampton and Walton Rural Water Supply Scheme which carried water to Pratt Hall and the Gate Inn ; Hollins and Riddings above Old Brampton ; and Hill Top, and Slate Pit Dale on the Walton side. During the next year the supply is to be extended to serve Wigley, Wadshelf, Eastmoor and Upper Loads."

The Engineer and Surveyor has supplied me with information regarding the building programme and developments in sewage disposal during the year as follows :—

- “(1) The total number of houses completed in the Rural District in 1953 was 2,793 comprised as follows :—

Built by private enterprise	.....	.....	.....	111
„ Sheffield Corporation	.....	.....	.....	1,857
„ Coal Industry Housing Association				276
„ Chesterfield R.D.C.	.....	.....	.....	549

From the above figures it will be seen that considerable developments have been made by the Sheffield Corporation in the Council's area, and as substantially the whole of the Corporation's housing activities have been concentrated on the Birley and Hackenthorpe estates they have erected in this area during the year far more houses than have the Council. In addition 276 houses have been completed by the Coal Industry Housing Association and many more are in course of erection.

These activities by other Authorities have necessitated a considerable expenditure on sewerage involving in total the construction of several miles of outfall and subsidiary sewers.

- (2) With regard to sewage disposal works, Stage 1 of the Beighton reconstruction has been completed and is in operation. Stage 1 consists of a hopper bottomed sedimentation tank followed by one filter and it is dealing with the sewage from the Sheffield Corporation development at Hackenthorpe which is within the drainage area of the Beighton Works. The design for the completion of this reconstruction has been practically completed in my office but more pressing housing demands have delayed the scheme. I hope, however, that Stage II will be commenced in 1954.

Work on the Northern Area Scheme has proceeded and it will go to the Ministry early in 1954.

A scheme for the reconstruction of Wheeldon Mill sewage disposal works has been sent to the Ministry and is being considered, while design work has been undertaken on a scheme for a new works at Stonebroom which will replace the existing Stonebroom and Morton works and take in Pilsley by means of a new trunk sewer.

A scheme for a new works at Arkwright Town to replace the existing works and take in Sutton-cum-Duckmanton has also been carried to a fairly advanced stage.”

TABLE 1.

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

Disease.	Total Number Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox .. .. .	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	142	95	—
Diphtheria .. .. .	—	—	—
Typhoid .. .. .	—	—	—
Para-typhoid .. .. .	1	1	—
Puerperal Fever	5	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia			
Meningococcal Infection .. .. .	1	1	—
Pneumonia .. .. .	131	23	21
Erysipelas .. .. .	43	5	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) .. .. .	2	2	—
(Non-paralytic) .. .. .	1	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	—	—	—
Measles .. .. .	1078	6	—
Whooping Cough .. .. .	264	4	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	2	—	—
Dysentery .. .. .	3	—	—

TABLE 2.

**TUBERCULOSIS RETURN FOR 1953.**

Age Period	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and over ..	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 and over ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
15 and over ..	4	3	2	1	—	—	—	—
25 and over ..	5	10	1	1	3	—	—	—
35 and over ..	5	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
45 and over ..	3	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
55 and over ..	2	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
65 and over ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total ..	23	17	4	3	11	2	1	—
Cases included above ..	NOT PRIMARY				NOT NOTIFIED			
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year there was an increase in the number of notified cases of scarlet fever, measles and whooping cough.

Whooping cough was responsible for one death, but no deaths were due to any of the other ordinary infectious diseases which generally were of a mild type.

Again there was no case of diphtheria notified ; this is the third year in succession in which the Rural District has been free from this disease.

The country as a whole seems to be enjoying a period of immunity from serious types of ordinary infectious disease, with one notable exception, poliomyelitis, which is gradually on the increase, though only three cases were notified in the district as compared with four in the previous year.

---

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS.

Number of children who had Primary Immunisations in the Authority's area during the year 1953 :

Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9 (incl.)	10-14 (incl.)	Total
26	412	145	52	19	77	11	742

TABLE 3.

**TREATMENT CENTRE, POOLSBROOK.**

No. of cases—110.

	Adults	5-15	Under 5	Total
<b>SCABIES.</b>				
Bolsover U.D.C. ....	1	1	1	3
Chesterfield Borough ....	7	5	2	14
Chesterfield R.D.C. ....	2	3	0	5
Clay Cross U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Dronfield U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C. ....	4	2	0	6
	<hr/> 14	<hr/> 11	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 28
<b>HEAD LICE.</b>				
Bolsover U.D.C. ....	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)
Chesterfield Borough ....	15 (7)	7 (4)	12 (7)	34(18)
Chesterfield R.D.C. ....	0	25 (5)	1 (1)	26 (6)
Clay Cross U.D.C. ....	0	1 (1)	0	1 (1)
Clowne R.D.C. ....	1 (1)	1 (1)	3 (2)	5 (4)
Dronfield U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C. ....	1 (1)	1 (1)	1 (1)	3 (3)
	<hr/> 17 (9)	<hr/> 36(12)	<hr/> 17(11)	<hr/> 70(32)
<b>SCABIES WITH VERMINOUS HEADS.</b>				
Bolsover U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield Borough ....	0	1(0)	1(0)	2(0)
Chesterfield R.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Clay Cross U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Dronfield U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C. ....	0	0	0	0
	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 1(0)	<hr/> 1(0)	<hr/> 2(0)
Diagnosis not confirmed	6			
Miscellaneous ....	4			
Pediculosis Corporis ....	2	Chesterfield Borough, adults.		
Pediculosis Pubis ....	0			

Note.—The numbers in brackets refer to those on whom live lice were found.

TABLE 4.

**TABLE SHOWING BIRTH, DEATH RATES AND INFANT  
MORTALITY FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS,**

Year		Birth Rate per 1,000 Living.		Death Rate per 1,000 Living.		Infant Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births.
1953	.....	17.1	.....	8.7	.....	25.71
1952	.....	15.4	.....	9.6	.....	35.01
1951	.....	15.3	.....	11.0	.....	28.42
1950	.....	16.0	.....	10.8	.....	38.0
1949	.....	17.65	.....	10.0	.....	42.07
1948	.....	19.2	.....	9.81	.....	37.11
1947	.....	20.91	.....	10.39	.....	48.27
1946	.....	20.44	.....	10.28	.....	41.80
1945	.....	18.83	.....	10.41	.....	42.98
1944	.....	22.26	.....	9.09	.....	36.25
1943	.....	20.14	.....	11.14	.....	42.9

TABLE 5.

**BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,  
MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1953.**

**Provisional Figures Based on Quarterly Returns.**

	England and Wales.	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London).	160 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Adminis- trative County.	Chester- field R.D.C.
Rates per 1,000 Home Population					
<b>Births—</b>					
Live Births.. ..	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5	<b>17.1</b>
Still Births .. ..	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38	<b>0.44</b>
	22.4(a)	24.8(a)	21.4(a)	21.0(a)	<b>25.0(a)</b>
<b>Deaths—</b>					
All Causes .. ..	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5	<b>8.7</b>
Typhoid and para- typhoid .. ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>0.00</b>
Whooping Cough ..	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	<b>0.01</b>
Diphtheria .. ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>0.00</b>
Tuberculosis .. ..	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24	<b>0.17</b>
Influenza .. ..	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15	<b>0.06</b>
Smallpox .. ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>0.00</b>
Acute poliomyelitis (including polio- encephalitis .. ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	<b>0.00</b>
Pneumonia .. ..	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64	<b>0.25</b>
<b>Notifications</b> (Corrected) .. ..					
Typhoid .. ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	<b>0.00</b>
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	<b>0.01</b>
Meningococcal infection .. ..	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	<b>0.01</b>
Scarlet Fever .. ..	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02	<b>1.74</b>
Whooping Cough ..	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30	<b>3.23</b>
Diphtheria .. ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	<b>0.00</b>
Erysipelas .. ..	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12	<b>0.52</b>
Smallpox .. ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>0.00</b>
Measles .. ..	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09	<b>13.22</b>
Pneumonia .. ..	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73	<b>1.60</b>
Acute poliomyelitis (including polio- encephalitis) :					
Paralytic .. ..	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07	<b>0.02</b>
Non-paralytic .. ..	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	<b>0.01</b>
Food Poisoning .. ..	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38	<b>0.07</b>
Puerperal Pyrexia	18.23(a)	24.33(a)	12.46(a)	28.61(a)	<b>3.48(a)</b>
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
<b>Deaths—</b>					
All Causes under 1 year of age .. ..	26.8(b)	30.8	24.3	24.8	<b>25.7</b>
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age .. ..	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1	<b>1.4</b>

TABLE 6.

**MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES.**

Intermediate List No. and Cause.		Number of Deaths.	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.	Rates per million women aged 15-44.
A.115	Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium.. ..	68	0.10	
	Abortion with toxæmia ..	7	0.01	1
A.116	Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium.. ..	166	0.24	
A.117	Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	90	0.13	
A.118	Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia ..	30	0.04	3
A.119	Abortion, with sepsis ..	39	0.06	4
A.120	Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium .. ..	125	0.18	

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

(b) Per 1,000 related live births.



**NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.****NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.**

No statutory action was taken under the above Acts during 1953. Four cases were investigated with a view to action but in no case was this necessary.

As more experience is obtained of the type of case likely to come under the provisions of Section 47 of the above Act, the more it is realized that while early action, even though it be strenuously opposed by the person concerned, is probably best for them in the end.

It is, however, extremely difficult to judge at what stage compulsory powers of removal should be used.

Attachment to one's own home is a very powerful factor but, unfortunately, so many old folk living alone rapidly change from being quite competent to look after themselves to a state in which they seem oblivious of, or insensitive to, squalor, dirt, cold and hunger and so become physically very weak yet retaining their mental alertness.

One noteworthy and gratifying feature is that almost without exception all the aged persons that have been persuaded to accept Part III accommodation or admission to a chronic sick ward wished they had accepted sooner.

In fact, although the Part III accommodation at Scarsdale as regards the buildings and amenities is by no means ideal, the attention given to the old folk is so good and so much appreciated that recently I have heard of some who refused transfer to the newly established hostels.

The latter are wonderfully equipped houses and offer accommodation equal to any first class boarding establishment but, unfortunately, their capacity is limited and one would imagine the cost per person accommodated is somewhat high.

There is a steadily increasing number of men and women living in the age group 70 + and thus proportionate increase in the demand for accommodation of this type. It does seem that Welfare Authorities must seriously consider erecting buildings specially built for housing the aged and of such a size that they can be run in the most economic way both in cash and personnel.

As I mentioned in my report last year quite a lot of criticism has been levelled at the younger generation in that they are unwilling to look after aged relatives. In some cases there may be

some justification ; but it is well to remember that many elderly people are very difficult to live with. They are set in their ways, their way is the only right way, and children in the house frequently are a source of trouble between mother and grandparent.

There will always be different opinions regarding institutional treatment for the aged, but I am certain that for the benefit of all concerned that when senile mental decay sets in all old people should be placed in institutions.

I have already made mention of the growing numbers of people living in the age group 70+.

The Housing Department estimate that 60 tenants approaching or in that age group are living alone in council houses ; the majority in two and three bedroom type.

All these old people are naturally attached to their homes and while there is no idea of moving them unless they consent, from the materialistic angle the houses are not being put to the best use. Of course, at the moment there is a dearth of old folk's bungalows.

With the general easing of the housing situation it may be possible for the erection of this special type house to be "stepped up."

The bungalow would fulfil, in most cases, a twofold purpose. Firstly, it would provide suitable accommodation for old folk and by the fact that an old couple taking tenancy would release a house suitable for family occupation.

If the present trend of vital statistics continues the "old age bungalow" will be in ever increasing demand.

### PETROLEUM ACTS.

Seven new petroleum stores have been constructed and six have been discontinued to be used during the year, making the present total of 151 separate stores. These have a total capacity of 259,350 gallons.

There are three calcium of carbide stores with a licensed capacity of 3,002 lbs.

The stores have been inspected and found to comply with the provisions of the Acts.

Licence fees amounted to £105/0/0.

### VERMINOUS PREMISES.

During the year 45 dwelling houses have been treated as compared with 40 the previous year.

### PRIVY CONVERSIONS.

During the year 73 pail and privy conversions were carried out.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

					No. in use at end of 1953.
Water Closets	.....	.....	.....	.....	24,772
Other	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,496
					<hr/> 27,268 <hr/>

### PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT.

These are periodically visited to ensure reasonable cleanliness and proper maintenance of sanitary conveniences.

**FOOD INSPECTION.**

During the year, Food Premises have been kept under supervision by your Inspectors and, in consequence, the undermentioned quantities of foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption. In all instances the food was surrendered to the Inspectors and it was removed from the premises and destroyed :

					Tins, jars, etc.
Apple Puree	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Apricots	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Apricot Jam	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Baked Beans	.....	.....	.....	.....	39
Beetroot	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Bilberries	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Beef Loaf	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Blackcurrants	.....	.....	.....	.....	13
Brawn	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Cherries	.....	.....	.....	.....	48
Coffee Essence	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Corned Beef	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Corned Mutton	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Cream	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Damsons	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Figs	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Fruit Salad	...	...	...	...	4
Grapes	...	...	...	...	4
Grapefruit	...	...	...	...	14
Greengages	...	...	...	...	19
Golden Syrup	...	...	...	...	1
Jellied Veal	...	...	...	...	5
Lemon Cheese	...	...	...	...	1
Lobster	...	...	...	...	4
Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	...	87
Marmalade	...	...	...	...	4
Milk	...	...	...	...	124
Macaroni	...	...	...	...	2
Mincemeat	...	...	...	...	2
Orange Segments	...	...	...	...	10
Ox Tongue	...	...	...	...	3
Peaches	...	...	...	...	14
Peas	...	...	...	...	24
Pears	...	...	...	...	9
Pickled Onions	...	...	...	...	3
Pineapple	...	...	...	...	7
Plums	...	...	...	...	46
Plum Jam	...	...	...	...	2
Pork Sausages	...	...	...	...	10
Prunes	...	...	...	...	38
Raspherries	...	...	...	...	1

Raspberry Jam	...	...	...	...	2
Red Cabbage	...	...	...	...	3
Salmon	...	...	...	...	3
Sauce	...	...	...	...	6
Sardines	...	...	...	...	2131
Shrimps	...	...	...	...	1
Spaghetti	...	...	...	...	4
Soup	...	...	...	...	1
Stewed Steak	...	...	...	...	8
Steak and Kidney Pudding	...	...	...	...	1
Strawberries	...	...	...	...	9
Strawberry Jam	...	...	...	...	5
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	234
Tomato Juice	...	...	...	...	1
Veal Loaf	...	...	...	...	1

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Total    ...    2996

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Packets.

Cheese Spread	...	...	...	...	10
Chocolate Rolls	...	...	...	...	2
Jelly	...	...	...	...	5

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Total    ...    17

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lbs.

Cake	...	...	...	...	38 $\frac{1}{2}$
Frozen Canned Egg	...	...	...	...	40
Prunes	...	...	...	...	6
Plum Pudding	...	...	...	...	10
Seedless Raisins	...	...	...	...	30
Sausages	...	...	...	...	52 $\frac{3}{4}$
Ham	...	...	...	...	148
Sago	...	...	...	...	1

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Total    ...    326 $\frac{1}{4}$

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Occasional slaughtering has taken place at Stud Farm, Duckmanton, for the Ministry of Food and during the year 375 sheep were slaughtered. These were inspected by your Inspectors and I give below particulars of the organs found to be unfit for human consumption and condemned.

Organs.			lbs.
Distomatosis	...	...	8
Parasitic	...	...	184
Pneumonia	...	...	14

TABLE 7.

**SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.**

	No. on Register	Insp'tions made	Notices served	Nuisances abated with or without notice.
Dairies and Milkshops ..	38	127	—	—
Bakehouses .. ..	29	61	—	—
*Slaughter Houses ..	30	17	—	—
Offensive Trades .. ..	1	1	—	—
Common Lodging Houses	1	1	—	—
Total .. .. .	99	207	—	—

\* Includes 2 Knackers premises.

TABLE 8.

**SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.****SUMMARY OF WORK OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.**

	No. of Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors	No. of Nuisances in respect of which Notices were served		No. of Nuisances abated with or without notice
		Informal	Legal	
<b>Closets and Ashpits—</b>				
Defective privies, pail closets and ashpits, (not for conversion) .. ..	30	3	1	8
Conversion of privies into W.C.'s .. ..	1380	69	—	69
Conversion of pail closets into W.C.'s .. ..	76	4	—	4
Conversions of privies into pail closets .. ..	—	—	—	—
Defective water closets .. ..	256	64	15	49
Provision of additional water closets .. ..	—	—	—	—
Provision of portable ashbins .. ..	1962	931	—	1818
Dirty closets .. ..	6	1	—	1
<b>Drainage—</b>				
No disconnection of waste pipe .. ..	—	—	—	—
Defective waste pipe, traps, inlets and drains .. ..	1069	24	28	186
Drains obstructed .. ..	220	29	6	110
<b>Other Defects—</b>				
Paving of Courts and Yards .. ..	55	12	9	13
Roofs, eaves-spouts and down-spouts .. ..	586	145	82	214
Sinks .. ..	91	29	11	22
Insufficient ventilation .. ..	5	1	—	1
Windows .. ..	232	62	39	69
Dampness .. ..	220	71	19	59
Water in cellars .. ..	5	2	—	—
Water supply .. ..	360	2	—	8
Overcrowding .. ..	23	—	—	—
Foul condition of Houses .. ..	56	1	—	1
Offensive accumulations .. ..	15	1	—	6
Animals improperly kept .. ..	11	—	—	—
Pigsties .. ..	45	—	—	5
Smoke Nuisances .. ..	355	—	—	—
Urinals .. ..	5	1	—	1
Nuisances not specified above .. ..	2488	299	135	376
<b>Totals .. ..</b>	<b>9551</b>	<b>1751</b>	<b>*345</b>	<b>3020</b>

Number of visits to Infectious Disease cases : 142.

\* Note.—The actual number of separate notices served was : 125.

TABLE 9.  
**FACTORIES ACT, 1937.**

Premises.	Inspections	Number of	
		Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. .. .	7	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	141	2	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) .. .. .	7	2	—
TOTAL .. .. .	155	4	—



## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

During the year 951 premises have been visited by your Inspectors and 147 surface infestations dealt with by the rat catchers to secure satisfactory elimination of rats and mice. Periodical visits continue to be made to certain business premises which are particularly susceptible to infestation and treatments are carried out when necessary. All the Council's sewage works and refuse tips are kept under observation and when infestations are found appropriate action is taken.

The type of property and infestations dealt with are as follows :

Type of Property.	Number of Treatments Carried out	Type of Infestation		
		Rats		Mice
		Major	Minor	
Council Property .. ..	44	4	40	—
Council Houses .. ..	35	—	6	29
*Private Houses .. ..	46	—	35	11
Other Property (includes businesses and schools) ..	22	—	19	3
TOTAL .. ..	147	4	100	43

\* Includes houses erected by Sheffield Corporation.

There are 61 separate sewerage systems with a total of 2,162 sewer manholes in the district ; these have been test baited and all systems found to be infested have received two treatments during the year. The present position is that 50 of the sewerage systems are now clear of rats and infestations in the remaining 11 systems have been further reduced.

Two part-time rat catchers are employed and operate in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries requirements. The operations during the year have resulted in an estimated kill of 1,491 rats from surface treatments and with regard to sewer treatments, which it is impracticable to give a reasonable estimate, I can only say that the kill has been considerable.

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